

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 067906

13

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DRAFTED BY IO/ UNP: VFHARTLEY: PJA

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APPROVED BY IO - MFHERZ

EA/ RA - MISS MCNUTT

NEA/ RA - MR. CHASE

L/ UNA - MR. NELSON

IO/ UNP - MR. STULL

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TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 067906

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, XB, JA, TH

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE SC MEETING IN ASIA

REF: (A) USUN 1083 (B) USUN 1202

1. DEPT CONCURS SC MEETING IN ASIA IN 1974 WOULD PROBABLY
PROVE IMPOSSIBLE PREVENT IF ASIANS DETERMINED. HOWEVER,
GENERAL OBJECTIONS VOICED IN 1972-1973 REMAIN VALID.
WHILE THESE OBJECTIONS MIGHT PROVE NO MORE PERSUASIVE NOW
THAN THEN, WE DO NOT WISH TO ABANDON THEM, AMONG OTHER
REASONS BECAUSE THAT COULD SUGGEST US OPPOSITION TO PANAMA
MEETING WAS BASED ESSENTIALLY ON BILATERAL CONSIDERATIONS
OR THAT WE ARE BECOMING RECONCILED TO SUCH ABUSE OF
SECURITY COUNCIL.

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 STATE 067906

2. DEPT ALSO CONCURS SC WORKING GROUP ON MEETINGS AWAY FROM HEADQUARTERS COULD PROVE USEFUL INSTRUMENT IN SEEKING AGREEMENT ON CERTAIN GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR SC IN DECIDING ON ITS RESPONSE TO FUTURE INVITATIONS FROM MEMBER STATES OR REGIONSTOMEET AWAY FROM HEADQUARTERS AND AGREES ON DESIRABILITY EARLY CONSULTATIONS, BEGINNING WITH UKDEL, ON HOW BEST PROCEED TOWARD THIS END IN WORKING GROUP.

3. AT SAME TIME DEPT RECOGNIZES DIFFICULTY OF IMPOSING RESTRICTIONS ON SC' S FREE EXERCISE OF ITS POWERS UNDER ARTICLE 28(3) OF U. N. CHARTER AND THAT SC MAY ON ITS OWN INITIATIVE DECIDE HOLD MEETING AWAY FROM HEADQUARTERS. SUCH OCCASION LIKELY ARISE FOR EXAMPLE IF GA WERE TO MEET IN GENEVA (WHICH WE DO NOT ENCOURAGE) AND IF SC MEETING BECAME NECESSARY WHILE GA IN SESSION.

4. IN WHATEVER CONTEXT QUESTION ARISES, DEPT BELIEVES BASIC GUIDING PRINCIPLE FOR SC IN DECIDING TO MEET AWAY FROM HEADQUARTERS SHOULD BE FACILITATION OF ITS WORK, NOT ONLY IN SHORT- TERM SENSE BUT ALSO FROM STANDPOINT OF ITS LONG- TERM EFFECTIVENESS AND PRESTIGE. WITH RESPECT TO SC' S RESPONSE TO INVITATION MEET AWAY FROM HEADQUARTERS YOU SHOULD (A) CONTINUE STRESS PRINCIPLE THAT AGENDA MUST JUSTIFY SPECIAL VENUE, THOUGH WE RECOGNIZE SEEMINGLY APPROPRIATE AGENDA ITEMS CAN BE CONTRIVED.

(B) HIT FINANCING ANGLE PARTICULARLY HARD IN LIGHT UN' S CURRENT FINANCIAL CRISIS, POINTING OUT IT NOT ENOUGH FOR HOST COUNTRY TO ASSUME MAJOR EXPENSES ONLY SINCE OTHER EXPENSES TO THE UN MUST IN THE END BE PAID BY MEMBER STATES. TO EXTENT AVAILABLE, COSTS OF PANAMA MEETING TO PANAMA AND TO UN MIGHT PROVE EFFECTIVE AMMUNITION IN THIS CONNECTION. OPERATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS SUCH AS COMMUNICATION FACILITIES, SPACE, AND SERVICES SHOULD ALSO BE EMPHASIZED.

(C) SEEK AGREEMENT THAT MEETING AWAY FROM HEADQUARTERS SHOULD NOT BE HELD IN CAPITAL OF STATE DIRECTLY CONCERNED IN MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED BY SC. DEPT DOES NOT HOWEVER CONSIDER PROPOSALS LIKELY BE PERSUASIVE THAT MEETINGS AWAY FROM HEADQUARTERS GENERALLY NOT BE HELD IN CAPITALS OF SC MEMBERS AND THAT SC PRESIDENT SHOULD BE
CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 STATE 067906

FROM OUTSIDE HOST REGION.

(D) REGARDLESS OF VENUE, SEEK ADVANCE AGREEMENT THAT PRESIDENT OF MEETING AWAY FROM HEADQUARTERS WOULD STEP DOWN IF QUESTION BEING CONSIDERED WAS ONE IN WHICH COUNTRY HE REPRESENTED HAS DIRECT INTEREST. WE REALIZE THAT RULE 20 OF SC PROVISIONAL RULES OF PROCEDURE PROVIDES FOR THIS POSSIBILITY, BUT WE COULD NEVER BE SURE OF MANDATORY APPLICATION OF THAT RULE UNLESS WE BUILD FURTHER UPON IT.

5. DOES USUN ANTICIPATE SC PRESIDENTS FOR NEXT THREE MONTHS (PERU, SUDAN, AND USSR) LIKELY TAKE INITIATIVE IN REACTIVATING WORKING GROUP? IF NOT, DEPT CONSIDERS JOINT INITIATIVE WITH UK AND HOPEFULLY OTHERS PREFERABLE TO US ACTING ALONE, BUT SUGGESTS MISSION IN ANY CASE MAKE CLEAR OUR STRONG INTEREST IN GROUND RULES TO CURB TREND TO ABUSE COUNCIL.

6. TO EXTENT POSSIBLE WITHOUT APPROACHING THAI DEL OR STIMULATING INTEREST IN SC MEETING IN ASIA, USUN SHOULD

TRY ASCERTAIN AMOUNT SUPPORT THAIS DEVELOPING AMONG ASIAN GROUP FOR SC MEETING IN BANGKOK IN 1974. ROGERS

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